

Department of Social and Health Services

DP Code/Title: PL-AU Indian Child Welfare
Program Level - 010 Children's Administration

Budget Period: 2007-09 Version: A1 010 - 2007-09 Agency Request Budget

Recommendation Summary Text:

This request is for \$1,782,000 for the 2007-09 Biennium to increase the direct Indian Child Welfare (ICW) resources to Tribal ICW programs to assure access to comprehensive services and ensure they keep pace with their state counterparts.

Fiscal Detail:

Operating Expenditures

	<u>FY 1</u>	<u>FY 2</u>	<u>Total</u>
Overall Funding			
001-1 General Fund - Basic Account-State	839,000	943,000	1,782,000
Total Cost	839,000	943,000	1,782,000

Staffing

Package Description:

Children's Administration is requesting \$1,782,000 for the 2007-09 Biennium to increase the direct Indian Child Welfare (ICW) resources to Tribal ICW programs. This funding will continue to address equitability of case management and services to meet the needs of dependent children. This will result in additional resources to strengthen Tribal ICW programs to ensure a comprehensive array of services to meet the increased demands for safety and security of Tribal children.

Funding for Indian Child Welfare has remained stagnant while state and federal requirements to meet the needs of vulnerable and dependent children have increased. Requirements including 24 and 72 hour Child Protective Services (CPS) response and especially Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5922 Child Abuse and Neglect Legislation will have a serious impact on Tribal ICW programs.

CA is committed to ensuring that all children within the state have access to the best and most comprehensive services available and that our ability to acquire the necessary resources be at their optimum across the state. Over the past 15 years, funding for Indian Child Welfare has remained stagnant while state and federal requirements to meet the needs of vulnerable and dependent children have increased. This proposal will increase the direct ICW resources to Tribal ICW programs by helping them keep pace with their state counterparts.

Only two percent of the children in Washington State are Native American, but nearly 15 percent of the children in out-of-home care are Native. Of the child fatalities in Washington in 2005, 17 percent were Native children which is dramatically disproportionate for the size of the overall population.

The additional requirements for child welfare, including the 2006 neglect legislation, will have a serious impact on Tribal Indian Child Welfare programs. These legislative changes will increase Tribal caseloads by increasing the number of cases that involve enrolled or enrollable Tribal children. The increase in Tribal caseload will cause a stress on systems that are already at a critical level.

This proposal will increase the direct ICW resources to Tribal ICW programs by helping them keep pace with their state counterparts and will help tribes meet the needs for Tribal children in the state of Washington by having a comprehensive array of services to meet their increasing demands for safety and security.

This decision package affects the following activities: Family Support Services (A035).

Narrative Justification and Impact Statement

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How contributes to strategic plan:

The proposals included in this decision package support the strategies and objectives for the following goals and outcomes included in CA's Strategic Plan:

Children will be safe from Abuse and Neglect.

Outcome: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.

Supporting Client Outcomes

Outcome: Children's Administration partners with and is responsive to Tribes, consumers, communities, courts and public and private agencies to service children and families.

This decision package supports the Priorities of Government (POG) goal to "Improve the Security of Washington's Vulnerable Children and Adults" and CA's goals under Government Management Accountability and Performance (GMAP) reporting of Permanency for Children, Child and Family Well Being and Supporting Client Outcomes.

Performance Measure Detail

Agency Level

Activity: A035 Family Support Services

Output Measures

		Incremental Changes	
		<u>FY 1</u>	<u>FY 2</u>
1111	Number of CPS, CWS and FRS referrals received.	0.00	0.00
1115	Average number of open cases carried per social worker at fiscal year end	0.00	0.00

Reason for change:

The reason for the request is to ensure that all children within the state have access to the best and most comprehensive services available and that our ability to acquire the necessary resources be at their optimum across the state.

Impact on clients and services:

This request will improve and enhance the services offered to children in Tribal custody by providing a consistent level of services that children in state custody now receive.

Impact on other state programs:

None

Relationship to capital budget:

Not applicable

Required changes to existing RCW, WAC, contract, or plan:

None

Alternatives explored by agency:

The alternative explored is to keep ICW funding at its current level. This will continue to perpetuate shortage of funding for tribal ICW programs to provide a consistent level of services that children in state custody now receive.

Budget impacts in future biennia:

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The ongoing costs would be included in CA's carry forward level in future biennia.

Distinction between one-time and ongoing costs:

All costs are ongoing.

Effects of non-funding:

If this proposal isn't funded, dependent children in the state will continue to receive uneven services and will impact permanency plans for their future. Non-funding will continue to perpetuate an unequal level of case management and services for children in care.

Expenditure Calculations and Assumptions:

Please see attached CA PL-AU Indian Child Welfare.xls.

<u>Object Detail</u>	<u>FY 1</u>	<u>FY 2</u>	<u>Total</u>
Overall Funding			
N Grants, Benefits & Client Services	839,000	943,000	1,782,000

DSHS Source Code Detail

Overall Funding	<u>FY 1</u>	<u>FY 2</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fund 001-1, General Fund - Basic Account-State			
<u>Sources Title</u>			
0011 General Fund State	839,000	943,000	1,782,000
<i>Total for Fund 001-1</i>	839,000	943,000	1,782,000
Total Overall Funding	839,000	943,000	1,782,000

**2007-09 Biennium
PL-AU Indian Child Welfare**

NEGLECT BILL		
FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009

Admin Costs	12,372				
	995	432	1,295	1,695	EST TOTAL NEW CASES, per data from the fiscal note for ESSB 5922 - 2006 Session
	8%	35	104	136	EST. NEW TRIBAL CASES @ 8% OF TOTAL
Service Costs					
	8%	2,892,000	6,258,000	6,258,000	Service costs per funding received for ESSB 5922
		233,000	503,000	503,000	EST. SERVICE COSTS @ 8% OF TOTAL

NEGLECT BILL		
FY 2008	FY 2009	
	104	136
	4.7	6.2
	\$ 70,992	\$ 70,992
Admin Costs	\$ 336,000	\$ 440,000
Service Costs	\$ 503,000	\$ 503,000
	\$ 839,000	\$ 943,000

Object	FY 2008	FY 2009
N	839,000	943,000
Source of Funds		
GF-S	839,000	943,000

Number of Children in an Open Event July 2006

Race	Closed Episode Not in DCFS Caseload	Open Episode on DCFS Caseload	Total
Not Native American	2,330	9,728	12,058
Native American	995	1,649	2,644
Total	3,325	11,377	14,702

Source: CAMIS Placement Files July 2006

DSHS Budget Office
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